Criteria for identification of sick PSUs

†1368. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have no criteria for identifying sick public sector undertakings for disinvestment;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that Government's views regarding the sick undertakings are doubtful and questionable;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that according to Government non-convertible, inactive and paid-up- liabilities are the main reasons for disinvestment?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir. Disinvestment in PSUs is being done as per the declared policy of the Government, according to which government held equity in all non-strategic PSUs is to be brought down to 26% or lower, in the generality of cases. This policy is applicable to all non-strategic PSUs profit-making or loss-incurring.

Disinvestment of CMC

1369. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have disinvested 51 per cent of the equity of the C.M.C. Ltd. to Tata Sons despite the fact that the Company was financially sound; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government have made advance commitment to Tata Sons to sell its remaining stake?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Yes, Sir. 50% Government holding in CMC Ltd. has been sold to the Strategic Partner, *i.e.* M/s. Tata Sons Limited. The disinvestment policy of the government is that, in generality of cases, Government will reduce its equity to 26% or below in central public sector undertakings operating in non- strategic areas. Decision to take up disinvestment is based on this policy of the Government and not on loss/profit of the concerned PSU.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.